

ALLIES REFUSE TO CONCEDE TO U. S. IN MAIL CONTROVERSY

Reply to American Protest Settles Nothing, Leaving Vital Rights in Conflict.

DENIES ALL ALLEGATIONS

Note Promises to Keep Neutral Postal Packages Inviolable, But Puzzle Exists.

The memorandum of Great Britain and France in response to the complaints of this Government concerning the detention and censorship of mails between the United States and neutral countries of Europe, leaves the differences between the United States and the entente allies in a condition no more satisfactory than it was on May 24, when Secretary Lansing sent his note of protest to London and Paris.

The allied memorandum is devoted to an argument intended to refute the contentions of the United States. None of these contentions is conceded by Great Britain and France, although the allied governments give assurances that they will continue to lessen the annoyances of mail detention and censorship, and are "ready to settle responsibility therefor in accordance with the principles of law and justice which it never was and is not now their intention to evade."

What action the United States Government will take with reference to this unsatisfactory state of affairs has not been determined, judging by what was said in official circles. It is, however, from informal comment, that seemingly irreconcilable differences exist between the United States and the allied governments over certain propositions set forth by the United States. Foremost among these are two well-established principles, which are themselves in conflict, yet are recognized by the practice of nations.

Concedes Right.
The United States Government has conceded the right of a belligerent to inspect mail in search for contraband. At the same time it is quite as well established that neutral mail is inviolable.

The problem confronting the United States in considering the British and French response to its complaints is to determine to what extent its rights as a neutral in the free transmission of mail to other neutral countries are superior to the recognized right of belligerents to examine such mails on the ground that they may contain contraband material. It is not denied by this Government that information which would be of benefit to a belligerent may be sent from a neutral country. What the Government objects to chiefly is that mail, carried between this and other neutral countries in neutral ships, is subjected to the same treatment as mail carried in British and French ships, over which the London and Paris governments have the right of supervision in their own ports.

In their response to the United States the British and French governments state that the diversion of the courses of neutral mail-carrying ships into British ports to enable the British authorities to examine the mails, is a violation of the part of owners and masters of these vessels who have found that less delay is caused by this method. With this assertion the United States does not agree. It holds that the mail-carrying neutral vessels really put into British ports for mail examination, under compulsion that arises from knowledge that if they failed to do so they would be seized on the high seas and required to touch at the British ports of examination.

Object to Haphazard Search.

The United States Government, while admitting that a belligerent has the right to examine neutral mail, containing contraband of war, which a belligerent believes is intended for delivery in an enemy country, holds that this principle can be carried out only when a belligerent has reason to believe that contraband of enemy destination is contained in particular packages or particular letters. In that event the belligerent, it is conceded, may open the suspected communication, but this Government contends that it cannot open every letter or package in its search for particular contraband information or material. This Government especially objects to Great Britain and France opening neutral mail by the wholesale without any prior knowledge that any part of it is of contraband character.

The United States does not object to allied warships holding up neutral mail steamers on the high seas to ascertain whether the mails contain contraband of enemy destination, but it does object to having neutral mail ships, containing American mail, compelled to put into British or French ports and there be detained until all the mail it carried has been examined by censors. Neutral ships, this Government holds, must not be forced to change their course for such purposes.

The puzzling feature of the situation, as admitted in the best informed circles, is that no way is known here by which the right of a belligerent to examine neutral mails for contraband can be carried out without violating the rights of the neutral to have his mails inviolable.

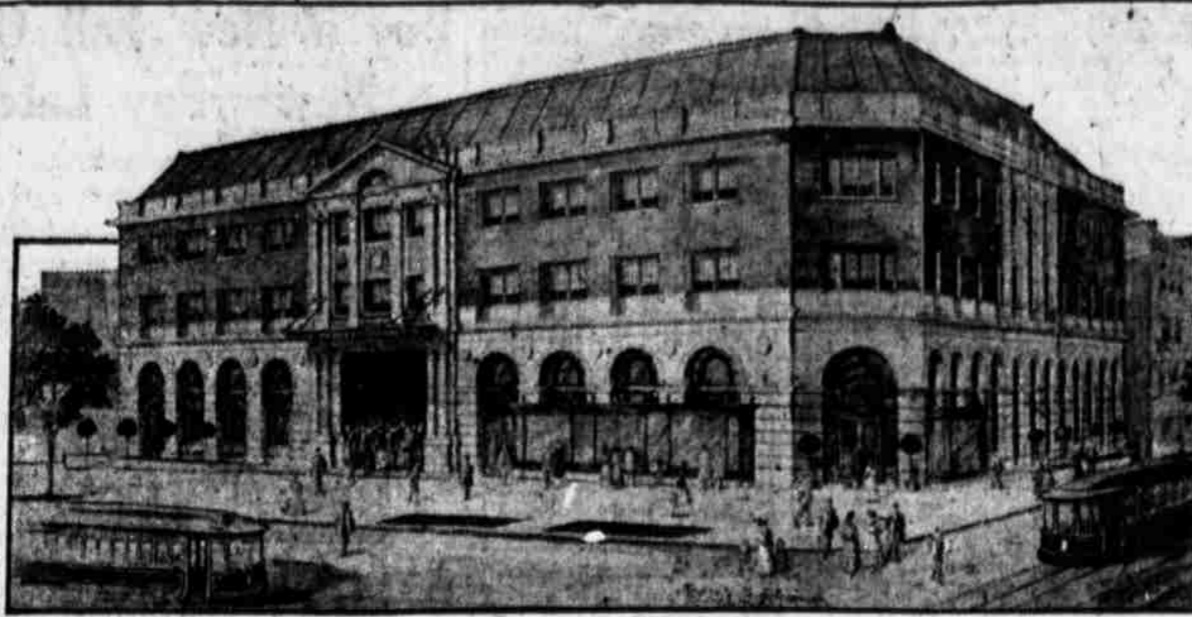
PLAN TO ENTERTAIN CATHOLIC ALUMNI

Notre Dame Graduates to Give Card Party.

Plans for attending the convention of the International Federation of Catholic Alumni and the entertainment of those delegates to the convention who came to Washington were discussed at a meeting of the Washington Chapter of the Alumni Association of Notre Dame of Maryland at the Buchanan last night. The organization will give a card party at 1801 Calvert street Saturday, Dr. Laura F. Shugrue will act as hostess, assisted by Mrs. M. Brooks Ramsdell, Mrs. T. V. Collins, Mrs. William Light, Miss Livingston, Miss Laura Lynch, and Mrs. Dorothy Butler.

A luncheon will be given Tuesday at the Lafayette Hotel. Those receiving will be Mrs. Richard Clinton Dyer, chair; Dr. Laura F. Shugrue, Mrs. M. Brooks Ramsdell, Mrs. John L. Walker, Mrs. T. V. Collins, Mrs. William Light, Miss Livingston, Miss Laura Lynch, and Mrs. Dorothy Butler.

PROPOSED THEATER IN MT. PLEASANT



NEW THEATER WILL BE ERECTED HERE

Plans Call for Accommodation of Big Musical Shows and Concerts.

Promising to bring to the heart of the northwest residence section symphony concerts, musical events that have hitherto been given only in downtown theaters, in addition to a type of motion picture theater unlike anything in Washington, the Knickerbocker Theater Company will break ground this week on the large lot at the corner of eighth street and Columbia road for the erection of a theater building to cost \$150,000, exclusive of \$50,000 which is the price reported to have been paid for the lot.

The new theater has been designed by Reginald Wyckliffe Gears, the architect, who will superintend its construction. It is being built for the Knickerbocker Theater Company, a syndicate headed by Harry Crandall, George T. Smallwood, Harry Buckley, and Fred S. Swindell. The theater, which is to occupy the entire lot, is to be known as Crandall's Knickerbocker, and will be completed within six months.

Plans Are Unique.

The plans for the building are unique in design, and according to the promoters of the project, will provide an amusement building unlike anything in this city or this section of the country. Those interested in the proposition state that the construction of a theater in this section which can be utilized for such important musical and social events as symphony concerts, lecture courses by best-known travel talk experts, and engagements of the most noted vocalists, instrumentalists, and other entertainers in the country, is the logical development of the trend of amusement in Washington.

The building is to be constructed entirely of stone, steel, concrete, and brick. It will be four stories in height, and will have its main entrance on Eighteenth street. The main foyer will encompass practically the entire Eighteenth street frontage. In addition, the spacious lobbies and foyers, which are to be finished in an especially artistic manner, are to be large enough to accommodate 1,500 persons, the entire seating capacity of the theater. The long balcony will have a vaulted ceiling, at the end of the gallery being a large circular room provided with a great fireplace.

Retiring Room Provided.

In the rear of the auditorium will be a large retiring and rest room for ladies, and on the opposite side a large smoking room for men. Directly above the ladies' retiring room will be a Japanese tea room and lounge, which will also communicate with the auditorium. There will be a number of mezzanine boxes across the front of the balcony. Several loggias in the long gallery promenade will overhang the auditorium and furnish additional boxes.

The furnishings provided for are all of the Adam period, and the color scheme in the decorations will be ivory, gold, and old rose. The ladies' retiring rooms will be blue and gold, and the long balcony promenade will be in lavender and ivory, with the upholstery and hangings in lavender velvet.

The lighting is to be along entirely new lines for theater lighting. It will be a semi-direct, self-diffusing light, so arranged that any desired effect can be produced in an instant, changing from brilliant sunlight to moonlight or the darkness of dawn. A ventilating plant will be provided for changing the air in the theater at least one each fifteen minutes. The fresh air will be warmed in winter and cooled in summer.

The seats to be provided are of a new design and are larger and more comfortable, according to their designer, than any theater seats in the city. Two motion picture exhibitions will be given each evening. The orchestra will provide a fifteen-minute concert program preceding each show. It is the intention of Manager Harry Crandall to exhibit the big motion picture features in the house, such as "The Birth of a Nation," and similar productions, as well as the regular feature films of the best known companies.

The tea rooms, lounges, promenades, etc., will be provided for tea, dances, receptions for all these affairs. It is the hope of Manager Crandall to secure the best travel lectures, the big symphony concerts, and star course concerts for the afternoons. The theater will be completed in six months.

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BOYS AND GIRLS HERE'S A MESSAGE FOR YOU

Here's a message to the boys and girls of Washington. The Chief of Police asked The Times to print this message because he believes it will do good and because he wants the boys and girls to know he is trying to aid them and also aid their parents. It's a very important message and The Times hopes all the boys and girls will read it:

Kiddies, You're Liable To Lose a Lot of Fun If You Jump On Autos

Mr. Small Boy and Miss Small Girl, Do you want to go through life with only one leg? Or do you want to be like the cripple boy or girl you saw today hobbling along on crutches or unable to use one or both of his or her arms?

Well, if you do just keep on stealing rides on trucks and grabbing hold of the backs of automobiles or riding alongside street cars when you are out skating or bicycling.

You want to dance and enjoy yourselves like other folks don't you when you grow up? If you're a boy you will probably want to play on the high school football or baseball teams; you'll want to swim as well as any of the other boys in the neighborhood or probably play tennis or ride a horse. Probably you'd like to get in the army or navy and be a captain and lead hundreds of other men into battle and in parades.

You know you can't do any of these things if in one second your foot would slip when you are skating at the rear of an auto truck, a street car or any other sort of a vehicle and the wheels of the same would run over you.

Look at what you take a chance of missing if you continue to do these foolish things. Grown-up folks don't do such foolish things when they go out to skate in the streets, and when they see you do them they say to themselves "I can't be a fool."

Your Future Is Threatened.

If you're a girl who does these babyish things like catching hold of a street car to skate, or to the back of an automobile while you are skating or riding a bicycle you take chances of never being able later in life to swim or dance, or play tennis or take part in any of the other games. You will have to sit back like the cripple you saw begging on the street and while everybody else plays.

You'll probably have to carry a heavy old crutch all your life and go to the poorhouse when you get older, because you won't be able to do the things other people do, and, therefore, you can't earn a living.

If you get your arm or leg crushed, then your father and mother have to spend lots of money for doctor's bills and medicine, and your little brothers and sisters and your parents themselves cannot have the amount of bread and butter they need to keep them alive. They will die years before they would have if they are driven to worry over your legless or crippled condition.

Only the other day two policemen warned a little boy who lives in southeast Washington not to risk at the back of an automobile on his skates. They threatened to arrest him if he did it again.

Just as soon as the policemen turned their backs and got out of sight he grabbed hold of another automobile and whizzed down the street. He was having a lot of fun.

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PLAN TO ARRAIGN LATHAM TUESDAY

Treasury Clerk Charged With the Theft of Unsigned Bank Notes.

Mark Latham, a clerk in the Treasury Department for more than twelve years, is locked up at the District Jail this morning, charged with having taken ten sheets of unsigned bank notes of a total value of \$500. Latham, thirty-six years old, will be arraigned Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock before United States Commissioner Isaac Hitt in the Maryland building. Latham is charged with violating section 47 of the United States penal code, relating to the purloining of articles of value from the Government.

The notes were missed about September 1 and Secret Service operators from Philadelphia came here to work on the case. They secured a warrant for Latham and it was served on him at the Treasury Building yesterday by Detectives Helan and Pratt, of the District Attorney's office.

He was taken before Commissioner Hitt yesterday and being unable to secure the \$10,000 bonds required, was locked up to await hearing. Latham lived at 151 17 street northeast and has a wife and one child. He is a native of North Carolina.

The sheets which Latham is charged with having taken were unsigned national bank notes. There were four notes to the sheet, one for \$20 and three for \$10.

An official of the Treasury Department, who assisted in the investigation, said this morning that a number of the stolen notes with forged names on them have been returned to the Treasury for redemption by banks.

Latham, it is said, was detailed from the auditor's office to the vault and shipping room in which the bank notes are stored. His arrest took Latham by surprise.

Border Guard Lifted.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent reports that the newspaper *Les Nouvelles* say the German guards along the Belgian frontier at Limbourg left Friday to join other detachments at Hamont. From there they were to be sent by rail to Roumania.

PARK VIEW FEST TO OPEN AUSPICIOUSLY

Will Continue for Five Days. Plans Pan Out Well, Says Committee.

Everything is in readiness for the opening of the celebration by the Park View Citizens' Association tomorrow night, to commemorate the opening of the new Park View School and the completion of the paving of Georgia avenue, those in charge announced today. The celebration will be continued for five days, and from the reports of the committees who have been working on the details of the plan for some months, should be the biggest community celebration in the history of the city.

The exercises are held under the supervision of the school board, although the members of the association have worked out the details. Tomorrow night Justice Frederick S. Siddons, of the District Supreme Court, will deliver the principal address. The Rev. John Van Kenalok, president of the Board of Education, will preside. Music will be furnished by the Third Division Orchestra. The Rev. Walter F. Smith is to deliver the invocation.

A nineteen-foot American flag will be presented to the school by Dr. A. B. Frane, for the association. Miss F. S. Parley will make the speech of acceptance. Miss Helma Chessman will give a selected vocal solo. "The Star-Spangled Banner" will be sung by H. E. Talmadge, to be followed by the singing of "America" by the audience.

Loses Husband's Bail.

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—The appellate division of the supreme court has decided that Mrs. Kathryn Bradley Thompson must forfeit \$5,000 bail because her husband failed to appear in court to answer charges of grand larceny made by Jose Bastillon, a rich Bolivian. Thompson is serving a five-year sentence in Sing Sing for swindling.

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